MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The roads were duly inspected by the Divisional and Sub-Divisional Officers.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Chief Engineer has inspected any of these roads? Is the member able to tell the distance of the Nedumangad town from the headquarters of the Chief Engineer?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I do not know.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): In spite of the request made by the honourable member for Nedumangad, may I know whether the Chief Engineer has visited any of these roads?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): No, Sir, he has something else to do.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know what Government mean when the Chief Engineer answers that he has something else to do? (*Laughter*).

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It means the Chief Engineer has something else to do.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Then, may I know whether any other officer from Government would look into this complaint that these roads are completely left neglected?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It is not necessary. The departmental officers have visited these roads.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, may I know whether these roads are being maintained for the convenience of the people or for the department?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): For the people.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Are the Government aware that there is much inconvenience to the people now?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I do not know, Sir. (*Laughter*).

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, I request the President humbly to make a request to the Dewan to pay a surprise visit to any one of these roads?

PRESIDENT: The honourable member's request to the President to make a request to the Dewan is noted.

Irrigation Canals in Pandalam Vadakkekara.

220. *MR. E. K. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they know the number of canals which drain the water that flow down from the hilly regions of the northern part of the Pandalam-Vadakkekara *pakuthi* into the Kidangannoor *puncha*; and

(*b*) on the sides of each of these canals, how many breaches have occurred and how many *paras* of paddy fields have become useless for cultivation due to the entrance of gravel which lie in heaps in the major portions of the above-mentioned fields?

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MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) :

(*a*) Three main channels with a few tributaries.

(*b*) Two major breaches; and about 2½ acres of paddy lands were silted up thereby.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : May I know whether the Chief Engineer has received any petition saying that these breaches should be closed ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Yes.

Culvert near Uzhamalakal Pakuthy Cutcherry.

221. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that the culvert in Arianadu-Nedumangad road near the Uzhamalakal *pakuthy* has been completely damaged in the flood of 1108 M. E. ;

(*b*) why the culvert has not been repaired as yet ;

(*c*) whether money was allotted for the purpose, tender was invited and contract given for its reconstruction a few years back ;

(*d*) if the answer to part (*c*) is in the affirmative, why the work was not completed; and

(*e*) whether they are aware that the road is closed for cart traffic?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) :

(*a*) A bridge in 6/7 Nedumangad-Shorlacode road was damaged during the heavy rains of Kanni 1109.

(*b*) The work is held up for want of funds.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) This does not arise.

(*e*) Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): With reference to the answer to part (*e*), may I know the distance of the road that is being closed for cart traffic ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I cannot give the length of the road.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether it will be at least five or six miles ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) ; I do not know, Sir.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether that road was not closed since 1101 in the absence of one culvert ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Through wheeled traffic was closed from 1109.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know the reason why in all these years that road has been left neglected ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : We have not the funds. There is only maintenance allotment for that road.

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